

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An isolated polypeptide having a thermostable ribonuclease H activity, and having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claims 2-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide having a thermostable ribonuclease H activity, encoded by plasmid pApr108, and wherein said polypeptide is obtained by culturing a transformant into which ~~a~~ plasmid pApr108 harbored by *Escherichia coli* HMS174/pApr108 (deposited under accession no. FERM BP-8433) is transferred.

Claim 7-9. (Cancelled)